



**Homeland
Security**

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Press Release

DHS ARRESTS TWO FOR ATTEMPTING TO CONCEAL OVER \$115K

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico- Two men who attempted to leave Luis Munoz Marin International Airport without declaring excess currency in the amount of \$115,000 were arrested here April 15th by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors arrested Ernesto Vladimir Estevez-Trejo, 26.

Estevez-Trejo, who was traveling to the Dominican Republic, informed CBP inspectors at pre-clearance that he was traveling with \$500. Further inspection revealed that he was actually traveling with approximately \$57,934.

Also arrested was Bernardo Martinez-Jose, 25, who was traveling to St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles. CBP inspectors discovered that Martinez-Jose attempted to conceal approximately \$50,858. He declared that he was traveling with \$700.

“Those who violate the laws of this country will be held accountable for their actions, said Leo I. Morales, special agent-in-charge of the San Juan office. “These two men demonstrated a blatant disregard for the laws of this country and will now have to explain their actions before a court of law.”

Both Estevez-Trejo and Martinez-Jose have been charged with violating Title 18, USC, Section 1001, for making false statements to federal officers. They are in U.S. Marshals Service custody at the Metropolitan Detention Center awaiting the outcome of their cases.

The U.S. Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico has accepted the cases for prosecution. The ICE investigation into this case is ongoing. Estevez-Trejo and Martinez-Jose are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

-DHS